

NLG NEWSLETTER

Volume 36 No. 1

Spring 2005

Get Those Entries In by June 10th or Else!



Have you got the right stuff?
Better yet, the write stuff?
Well, it's time to find out once
again – time for the annual NLG
Writers' Competition.

It seems like only yesterday that many of us got together in Pittsburgh to share an evening of laughter and plaudits at the 2004 Bash. The calendar doesn't lie, though, and we'll soon be attending yet another Bash in San Francisco.

Before that, though, those of us who hope to receive an award plaque or two on that always festive occasion will first have to send off our entries. As in the past, the 2005 NLG awards will recognize the very best books, articles, columns, auction catalogs, newsletters and other literary works produced in the field of numismatics during the last

Directors' Message by Ed Reiter

12 months. And, once again, the contest also encompasses works that have appeared on the Internet, reflecting the importance of the online world as a showcase for good writing and a source of information on numismatics. The rules and categories are basically the same as last year. One small change has been made, however, regarding multiple plaques in cases where an entry represents the work of more than one individual.

The Guild has provided separate plaques in the past for each winner in cases where, for example, a book or catalog was coauthored by several persons, or written by one person and edited by another.

Beginning this year, we are reserving the right to limit the number of plaques for any given entry, with the number to be determined at our discretion. And we will provide plaques only for persons named in an entry when it is originally submitted.

This year, again, we are offering a very special award to

honor Jim Miller, longtime publisher of *COINage*, who died Nov. 29, 2003 at the age of 71. The James L. Miller Memorial Award will go to the author of the single best numismatics-related article to appear during the last year in any medium, including both numismatic and non-numismatic magazines, newspapers and Internet Web sites. It is intended to be the equivalent of our Book of the Year Award – an Article of the Year Award, as it were.

Beth Deisher, editor of *Coin*World, received the award last
year, the first time it was given,
for a superb article on the unearthing of the "missing" fifth
specimen of the 1913 Liberty
Head nickel. That set a high
standard for this year's entrants
to follow. Having worked
closely with Jim as editor of *COINage* for nearly two decades,
I know he would have been
pleased to see the award go to
such a worthy winner in its inaugural year.

We also are retaining separate categories this year for regional, state and local club publications. Prior to last year, there had been a single competition.

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We also are retaining separate categories this year for regional, state and local club publications. Prior to last year, there had been a single competition for club publications, and national publications had dominated the awards. Several interested parties expressed concern about this, feeling that it gave an unfair advantage to the national publications because of their greater resources – and after reviewing the situation, Contest Coordinator Scott A. Travers agreed that it would be more equitable to create a new and separate class of competition for the smaller clubs. That will be the case again this year.

Complete rules for the writers' competition are published in this issue of the Newsletter, Recognizing that many NLG members are highly computer-literate, and may find it convenient to review the rules for the Writers' Competition, and other Guild news, at our Web site, we're listing them there as well. Our Web site is www.numismaticliteraryguild.org and it's maintained by our highly efficient Web master, Dr. Howard Berlin. To be eligible for consideration in any of this year's categories, entries must have been published (or posted on the Internet) between May 1, 2004 and April 30, 2005. Three copies of each entry must be submitted,

and each copy must be accompanied by a cover sheet listing the category and other information spelled out in the rules.

All entries must be received no later than June 10, 2005. They should be sent to the contest coordinator at the following address:

Scott A. Travers,
c/o Sal Germano,
SGRC Inc.,
625 Lafayette Ave.,
Hawthorne, NJ 07506.

The address is the same as last year.

This year again, entries in a number of categories will be judged by editors and other well-qualified individuals outside the numismatic field. Although this will not affect the manner in which entries are submitted, we ask you to take special care in making sure that each copy is accompanied by a completed cover sheet listing all the information printed in boldface type in the

Winners will be announced, and awards presented, at the 2005 NLG Bash on Thursday, July 28, at the American Numismatic Association convention in San Francisco.

preceding paragraph.

Good luck to one and all!



NLG NEWSLETTER

Since 1968, the official publication of the Numismatic Literary Guild Ltd.

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Advertising Rates

For Four (4) Insertions

Full Page \$900

Half Page \$500

Quarter Page \$275



In the last issue of the NLG Newsletter, Neil Shafer shared a portion of his numismatic journey and asked other members to do the same.

I thought about sharing my story, but then thought better of

When the editor personally asked if I would write a few words, well, I couldn't refuse.

My journey began as an aspiration – an aspiration to advance my career. After a few years of copyediting and laying out do-ityourself auto-repair manuals, I felt it was time to move on.

I did all of the things one does when job hunting. I updated my résumé and set some long- and short-term goals. I combed the want ads, posted my revamped résumé on some employment Web sites and told everyone I could what my intentions were.

Then I researched the local publishers, marketing firms and any potential employer might want to utilize an English major with a journalism credential.

The diligence finally paid off in October 2000, when the local

A Numismatic Journey: My Chance Encounter With 'Change' by Marcy Gibbel

newspaper ran a want ad for an editor at COINage, a Miller Maga- COINage, which is where my true zines publication.

I responded immediately. A of interviews later, here I am.

balance of my journey requires zine. I had one week of hands-on more explanation.

ning, but I am a collector of many navigate through COINage and its things. As a child, I collected eccentricities on my own. rocks and pieces of Indian pottery that I found on family hikes in the though. local canyons. I collected gymnastics lapel pins from every meet I me his knack for finding the right participated in and wore them story at the right time. proudly on my team warmup jacket.

Anne Rice novels, and my hus-disposal. band will tell you that I collect purses, handbags and totes. I jus- ing editors and writers that contify that habit with the fact that sistently produces superior conthey are practical items, but he tent, much of which has won sees it as an excuse to go boutiqu- NLG awards. ing.

always been an artist and a writer. I painted for many years, before school and work left little time for creative recreation, and I have completed many short stories, none of which has been submitted for publication.

And I'm a magazine junkie. No fewer than 10 magazines arrive at my home each month, and I have been known to purchase everything from American Heritage to Modern Drummer.

All of those traits led me to numismatic journey begins.

A slightly modified interpretalittle more research and a couple tion of the old adage, "Buy the book before the coin," holds true That's the short version. The for managing and editing a magatraining with my predecessor, I didn't realize it in the begin- Kari Stone, before I was left to

I wasn't really on my own,

Jim Miller tried to pass on to

I had numerous research materials, not to mention some of the I currently collect first-edition hobby's finest researchers, at my

I inherited a staff of contribut-

After almost five years, I am What I did realize is that I have still accompanied on this jour-

> Senior Editor Ed Reiter and I continue to seek out and develop interesting story ideas.

> Veteran coin collectors and dealers generously share their knowledge in interviews and allow me to pass it on to our readers. Seasoned journalists and COINage readers offer their insight monthly, and because of all of those people, I truly learn

Jim Miller tried to pass on to me his knack for finding the right story at the right time.

I had numerous research materials, not to mention some of the hobby's finest researchers, at my of all of those people, I truly learn tion of works produced by the disposal.

I inherited a staff of contributing editors and writers that consis-ries unknowingly led me to an-vated by medallic art. (I realize it tently produces superior content, other leg of my numismatic jour- is a bit outside the realm of actual much of which has won NLG ney: actual coin collecting. Out of coinage, but sculptors and coinage awards.

interviews and allow me to pass it change shortly. on to our readers. Seasoned journalists and *COINage* readers offer more about Mexican Coinage. their insight monthly, and because Much of it is very affordable and mismatic ride.



something new every day.

curiosity, in 2001 I purchased di- designers were once made from After almost five years, I am rectly from the U.S. Mint a P-mint the same mold.) Medallic art is still accompanied on this journey. proof Buffalo silver dollar. I fol-portable, beautiful and poignant, Senior Editor Ed Reiter and I lowed that up by purchasing two and some of it can be collected on continue to seek out and develop 2002 U.S. proof sets, complete a journalist's salary. interesting story ideas. Veteran with statehood quarters. I still coin collectors and dealers gener- consider that more along the lines worth taking never truly ends, ously share their knowledge in of "accumulating," but that will and I certainly don't know where

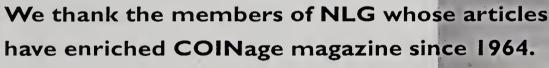
I am interested now in learning

very attractive. My lineage includes at least two Mexican revolutionaries, so there is a personal connecton as well.

And, after attending an exhibi-American Medallic Sculpture As-In fact, COINage's staff and sto-sociation, the artist within is capti-

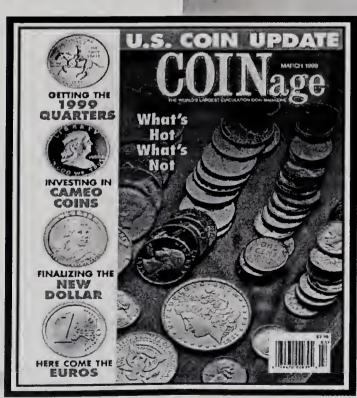
> I believe that any journey this one will lead.

> For now, I'll just pop another peso in the slot and enjoy the nu-



We invite your submissions.







005 NLG Writers Competition Rules For

Please note that some of the rules, and category and class numbers, have changed from last year's. Also note the new deadline dates.

All NLG members are eligible to participate if their dues have been

All entries must have been published between May 1, 2004 and April 30,

Entries must be received not later than June 10, 2005.

All entries must be the work of entrant or must have been produced under entrant's editorial direction.

The judges reserve the right to change the category in which an entry may compete, if they believe such change is necessary to assure equity of all participants.

Three (3) copies of each entry must be submitted in all categories except portfolio and software. In these two categories, one copy will suffice. Quality photocopies of newspaper and magazine articles are acceptable.

No entries will be returned under any circumstance.

No entrant may submit more than one (1) entry in any single category. (The same entry may also be included in the portfolio competition, however, or for the James L.Miller Memorial Award.)

In categories with only one entry, judges may decide that no award will be given, or may substitute Special NLG Recognition for the regular NLG Award.

All judges' decisions are binding and final; confidentiality of all judging is absolute.

Failure to conform to all rules will be cause for disqualification from the

competition.

All entries must be sent to:

Scott A. Travers c/o Sal Germano, SGRC Inc., 625 Lafayette Ave.

Hawthorne, NJ 07506

Each entry copy must have the following information attached or it will be disqualified:

- **CLASS**
- **CATEGORY**
- **ENTRANT'S NAME & ADDRESS**
- **PUBLICATION**
- **PUBLICATION DATE**
- TITLE OR HEADING
- **AUTHOR (IF OTHER** THAN ENTRANT)

The following classes and categories

gory!

CLASS I BOOKS

Books may be submitted by author, publisher or editor. Three (3) copies must be submitted. Eligible are new books or those accepted by the judges at their sole discretion as substantially revised versions of earlier works.

1. BOOK OF THE YEAR

The work having the greatest potential impact on numismatics: Criteria include overall reader appeal, research quality, photographic, printing and graphic excellence, cover and typography where applicable. Books submitted in the specialized categories below may be considered for Book of the Year as well.

2. BEST SPECIALIZED BOOK ON

- (a) United States Coins
- (b) World Coins
- (c) U.S. Paper Money
- (d) World Paper Money
- (e) Tokens & Medals

- (f) Numismatic Investments
- Museum & Exhibition Catalogs

CLASS II-A U.S. COMMERCIAL NUMIS-**MATIC MAGAZINES**

(Coins, COINage magazines and similar periodicals)

3. BEST ARTICLE OR SERIES **OF ARTICLES**

Three (3) copies of articles dealing with:

- (a) Coins
- (b) Tokens & Medals
- (c) Paper Money

4. BEST COLUMN

Three (3) copies EACH of three (3) selections from ongoing column.

5. BEST ISSUE

are in force in 2005. Three (3) copies of the issue submit-PLEASE EXAMINE YOUR EN- ted by publisher, editors. Criteria in-TRIES CAREFULLY to be certain clude overall numismatic appeal, feathey qualify in the proper cate- tures, departments, graphics, journalistic and editorial excellence as applicable.

5. BEST ISSUE

Three (3) copies of the issue submitted by publisher, editors. Criteria include overall numismatic appeal, features, departments, graphics, journalistic and editorial excellence as applicable.

CLASS II-B WORLD COMMERCIAL NU-**MISMATIC MAGAZINES**

(World Coin News, The Celator, similar overseas publications)

6. BEST ARTICLE OR SERIES **OF ARTICLES**

Three (3) copies of articles dealing with:

- (a) Coins
- (b) Tokens & Medals
- (c) Paper Money

7. BEST COLUMN

Three (3) copies EACH of three (3) selections from ongoing column. .

8. BEST ISSUE

Three (3) copies of the issue submitted by publisher, editors. Same criteria as Category 5 above.

CLASS III LARGE-CIRCULATION AND OTHER NON-PROFIT OR **CLUB NUMISMATIC PUBLI-CATIONS**

(National publications and others with a circulation of 20,000 or more, including Numismatist, The ANS Journal, TAMS Journal and Paper Money)

9. BEST ARTICLE

Three (3) copies of articles dealing with any subject related to numismatics (ONE Award).

10. BEST COLUMN

Three (3) copies EACH of (3) selections from ongoing column.

11. BEST ISSUE

Three (3) copies of the issue submitted by publisher and/or editor. Same criteria as Category 5.

CLASS III-A SMALL-CIRCULATION AND OTHER NON-PROFIT OR **CLUB NUMISMATIC PUBLI-CATIONS**

(State, regional and local publications and others with a circulation of less than 20,000)

9. BEST ARTICLE

with any subject related to numismatics (ONE Award)

10. BEST COLUMN

Three (3) copies EACH of (3) selections from ongoing column.

11. BEST ISSUE

Three (3) copies of the issue submitted by publisher and/or editor. Same criteria as Category 5.

CLASS IV NUMISMATIC NEWSPAPERS

12. BEST SPOT NEWS **STORY**

or continuing coverage of a developing story in numismatics.

13. BEST ARTICLE OR SE-RIES OF ARTICLES

Three (3) copies of articles dealing with:

- (a) Coins
- (b) Tokens & Medals
- (c) Paper Money

14. BEST COLUMN

Three (3) copies EACH of (3) selections from ongoing column.

15. BEST ISSUE

Three (3) copies of the issue submitted by publisher, editors. Same criteria as Category 5.

CLASS V NON-NUMISMATIC NEWSPA-PERS AND MAGAZINES

16. THE MAURICE M. GOULD MEMORIAL AWARD

Entries may be submitted by publisher, editor or columnist of any coin column appearing regularly in any non-numismatic newspaper or magazine of any size circulation.

17. BEST ARTICLE

Three (3) copies of articles dealing with any subject related to numismatics.

CLASS VI COMPUTER SOFTWARE AND INTERNET WEB SITES

18. BEST WEB SITE ARTICLE

Three (3) printouts of an article appearing on a Web site dealing with Three (3) copies of articles dealing any subject related to numismatics.

19. BEST DEALER WEB SITE

information related to numismatics. firm, auctioneer or cataloger. For static sites, submit the URL. For sites that change, submit three (3) hard copies of the home page.

20. BEST NON-COMMERCIAL **WEB SITE**

This category is for Web sites maintained by coin clubs and other noncommercial organizations and individuals devoted to the coin hobby. For static sites, submit the URL. For sites that change, submit three (3)

hard copies of the home page.

21. BEST TRADE PRESS AND INFORMATION WEB SITE

This award will be presented for the best numismatic Web site that disseminates news and other information about the coin hobby. For static sites, submit the URL. For sites that change, submit three (3) hard copies of the home page.

22. BEST NON-NUMISMATIC PRESS WEB SITE

This award will be presented for the best numismatic Web site produced by a non-numismatic news organization. Editorial content from members of the hobby press is acceptable. For static sites, submit the URL. For sites that change, submit three (3) hard copies of the home page.

23. SOFTWARE

Best presentation of a new numismatic work, or new presentation of a previously published numismatic work in CD ROM, DVD, floppy disk or any other electronic format. Only one copy of the work need be submitted. Entry must be accompanied by written statement citing date (s) of first use, plus information required by NLG rules above.

CLASS VII AUCTION CATALOGS

- 24. Three (3) copies of each catalog entered. Criteria include cover design, overall eye appeal, format, This category is for Web sites that are graphics and layout, in-depth reused to buy or sell coins, offer sup- search and quality of description. plies or sell books or other forms of Entries may be submitted by auction
 - (a) Coin and currency auction catalogs
 - (b) Catalogs for auctions of books and exonumia

CLASS VIII COMMERCIAL PUBLICA-TIONS

25. LEE MARTIN FOUNDER'S AWARD

For Best Investment Newsletter:

Criteria include overall reader appeal, quality of research and writing, and graphics as applicable. Submit mismatics, but non-broadcast. Inthree (3) copies EACH of three (3) cludes audio tracks from numisissues – total, nine (9) items.

26. BEST DEALER-PUBLISHED MAGAZINE OR NEWSPAPER

Criteria include overall reader appeal, quality of research and writing, and graphics excellence. Submit three (3) copies EACH of at least three (3) different issues

CLASS IX BEST ALL-AROUND PORTFOLIO

27. Collection of writings and/or photographs and related items demonstrating numismatic writing ability and versatility. Organization and presentation will count as heavily as volume. Only one (1) copy of portfolio need be submitted; other copies of items included in portfolio may also be submitted in other relevant categories at entrant's option.

CLASS X BEST WRITER IN NLG NEWS-LETTER

28. NLG Newsletter editor alone selects winner. Criteria include writing skill and style, numismatic or organization support, content to inform the member readers. No entries accepted; editor alone decides.

CLASS XI AUDIO-VISUAL

29. RADIO

Best news story, feature report or continuing series involving numismatics. Entries must include standard-size audiocassette of story or feature report or three (3) selections from continuing series, accompanied by written statement citing date (s) of broadcast, call letters and location of radio station, as well as information required in NLG rules listed above. Interview segments no longer qualify for this category.

30. AUDIO

Best audio program involving numatic slide shows, edu-cational tapes, audio newsletters and other presentations. Entries must include standard-size audiocassette, written statement citing date(s) of first use, plus information required in NLG rules above. Interview segments no longer qualify for this category.

31. TELEVISION

Best spot news story, feature report and longtime publisher of COINage or continuing series involving nu- magazine, will recognize the best mismatics. Entries must include numismatic article to appear in any standard-size cassette recording of medium, including both numismatic television broadcast or three (3) se- and non-numismatic magazines, lections from continuing series. newspapers and Internet Web sites. Tape must be either half-inch VHS Submit three (3) copies or printouts or ³/₄-inch professional videocas- of an article dealing sette, and must be accompanied by with any subject related to numiswritten statement citing date(s) of matics. Criteria include broadcast, call letters and location overall reader appeal, research qualof station, plus information required ity and writing excellence. Articles in NLG rules above. Interview seg- submitted in this category may also ments no longer qualify for this be submitted in other applicable category.

32-A. VIDEO - NON-**COMMERCIAL**

Best non-broadcast slide movie film or

videotape numismatics made for educational ber of the numismatic writing compurposes. Entry must include audio munity and NLG founder, Clement as well as visual materials – either F. Bailey. This award recognizes written script or soundtrack of film, excellence among new writers in audio or video cassette used in pres-numismatics, whose first published entation. Entry must be accompa- writings appeared during the previnied by written statement citing date ous year. Nominees are supplied (s) of first use, plus information re- solely by numismatic publishers. quired by NLG rules above. Interview segments no longer qualify for this category.

32-B. VIDEO – COMMERCIAL

Best non-broadcast slide film, movie film or videotape presentation involving numismatics made to promote a company or product. Entry must include audio as well as visual materials – either written

script or soundtrack of film, audio or video cassette used in presentation. Entry must be accompanied by written statement citing date(s) of first use, plus information required by NLG rules above. Interview segments no longer qualify for this category.

CLASS XII SPECIAL MEMORIAL **AWARDS** 33. JAMES L. MILLER ME-MORIAL AWARD

This award, honoring the co-founder categories.

34. CLEMENT F. BAILEY **MEMORIAL AWARD**

film, This award was endowed by Jim Miller of Miller Magazines in mempresentation involving ory of an especially beloved mem-

> NLG reserves the right to limit the number of plaques for any given entry, with the number to be determined at its discretion. NLG will provide plaques only for the persons named in an entry when it is originally submitted.

Clemy Award Winners

1968	Clement F. Bailey	`-
1969	Edward C. Rochette	7.
1970	Lee Martin	75
1971	Margo Russell	7.5
1972	Virginia Culver	75
1973	Maurice M. Gould	25
1974	Eva B. Adams	25
1975	Ray Byrne	25
1976	Chester L. Krause	25
1977	Richard S. Yeoman	25
1978 1979 1980 1981 1982 1983 1984	Lee F Hewitt	×
1979	Abe Kosoff	25
1980	Glenn Smedley	W W
1981	Arlie Slabaugh	1
1982	Eric P. Newman	*
1983	Kenneth Bressett	XXX
1984	Donn Pearlman	
1000	Walter Breen	1
1986	Ed Reiter	12-14
× 1987	David T. Alexander	35
1988	James L. Miller	X X
~ 1989	Q. David Bowers	
× 1990	David L. Ganz	35
× 1991	Clifford Mishler	35
1992	R.W. Julian	W
1993	Russell Rulau	N.
× 1994	Elvira Clain Stefanell	34
1995	Beth Deisher	35
> 1996	Col. Bill Murray	25
1997	Alan Herbert	25
1998	Burnett Anderson	25
1999	Thomas K. DeLorey	30
2000	Wendell A. Wolka	4.4
2001	David C. Harper	1.
2002	Scott A. Travers	7
2003	Bill Fivaz	^
2004	Neil Shafer	1
2005	?????	7
0		70

Good Luck All!!

It's Time for a Third-Quarter Push by Mark Benvenuto

How many of us have a past that includes long-distance running, swimming or biking? These grueling sports that are as much about endurance as they are about it! Sure, many of us have busy sheer muscle and talent.

Most distance athletes know that if you go out in the first quarter in a blaze of speed, you're nothing but dead meat at the end, passed by all the others. On the other hand, even those who conserve some strength know that the instance – but even if you are in a third quarter is going to be hell. After the first half, but before the final quarter, comes that psychological hurdle you've got to beat.

OK, why all this athletic pop psychology? Because we NLG members are in our third quarter right now, and we probably need a push.

I'm talking about the 50-State Quarters program.

The 10-year program opened in 1999 with a blaze of press releases to a wide variety of newspapers and other media outlets. Many NLG members probably were able to interest some editor in at least a short article about the program. But with the unveiling of Michigan's design in early 2004, we entered the third quarter, and news coverage was lagging, along with our own efforts to publicize the program.

If you don't believe it, think how little fanfare there was for the shoot for some time other than Texas quarter – and that has a beautiful design. Think about the other designs of 2004 and of this year. It makes you realize just

how deeply into that third-quarter mentality we have all sunk.

Is there a remedy for these apathy blues? You bet – and you're schedules. But if each NLG member approaches three, just three, local or area newspapers, we can get a lot of interest focused back on our coins.

First, go to some local papers. I write out of the Detroit area, for more rural locale, there are county and town newspapers that come out weekly or monthly. Lots of them are willing to take a brief article about the newest quarters, especially if you can mix in some good yarns about finds in the local area.

Second, go to non-numismatic organizations to see if there is a fit with their newsletters. Just as with newspapers, these don't have to be national organizations or some kind of national news outlet. The local Boys and Girls Clubs often have news fliers or newspapers. So do the Optimists Club, Knights of Columbus, Boy and Girl Scouts and a host of other local, usually volunteer, organizations.

Third, go to local radio or television stations. While this may seem like a long shot, you'd be amazed what you can get on a local talk-radio station when you what are called "morning drive" and "evening drive." This kind of writing is usually less developed and in-depth than that found in

ATTENTION NUMISMATIC WRITERS

RULES AND INSTRUCTIONS:

Heritage Numismatic
Auctions is pleased to
extend the opportunity for
Numismatic Literary Guild
members, plus all other
numismatic authors, to post
their articles on the world's
leading numismatic website: HeritageCoins.com

There is no payment for the articles – but the first 25 articles posted in 2005 will receive free NLG membership for one year (new members subject to NLG Board approval, naturally).

- Authors may electronically submit an unlimited number of articles (by email or on disk, including all illustrations; MS Word preferred)
- Articles selected will be posted on the Heritage website: HeritageCoins.com
- Articles can be fresh or previously published, but the author must be able to Grant Heritage permission to post
- The author must have permission to reproduce any illustrations (which must be submitted in electronic form)
- Articles may pertain to any numismatic topics, and research may be from primary or secondary sources
- Popularity of articles is tracked by readership statistics and ratings
- Authors may request that their email addresses and/or website links be included in their biographies (Heritage reserves the absolute right to remove inappropriate links)
- Dealer authors may also request a link on our Links page
- For more information. visit:
 http://www.heritagecoins.com/features/default.php

Entries should be emailed to the attention of James L. Halperin (Jim@HeritageCoins.com); disks may be sent to Jim at the address below.

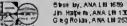
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Editors' Notes

by

Michael Sedgwick



Sorting though some draws recently, doing - I suppose - a little Spring cleaning, it turned into something more akin to meandering through memories. Postcards, notes and letters, memorabilia.... and coins!

My coin collection is more like coin hoarding. Six Kennedy dollars which came back with me from my first visit to Las Vegas thirty years ago... in fact at that time I lived England, so they did the Atlantic crossing. Vegas was quite startling even then, especially to a quite naïve Englishman. A couple of Swiss francs reminded me of a ski trip in my early twenties... and some Italian lire notes from a trip to Milan. That was a fun time. A mixed group of Italians, Americans and me, the Brit, all sitting around happily chatting away, even though they spoke

little English and us minimal Italian – it must have been the chianti!!!

A few 20 centimes coins from Haiti, accumulated from four ruise ship stops, bring back memories of that beautiful Caribbean island. It was the time of Papa Doc's dictatorship. The juxtaposition of such unbelievable poverty next to the most shallow luxury, jars my mind even today, years later. A special memory of that time was flying over the island from Cap Haitian to Porto Prince in a six-seater, probably held together more by tape and will power, than by the physics of nuts and bolts. Indeed sadly there was a crash a number of years later, which left me thinking just how lucky I was!

Reminders of another flying experience were prompted by some Jamaican coins. On that occasion a pre-dawn flight in a similar small craft, brought the invitation to sit with the pilot and see the sun rising over a new glorious Caribbean morning. You just can't make that stuff up!

A favourite memory was rekindled when I came across my 1951 Festival of Britain crown in its maroon cardboard case. The Festival signaled the resurgence of Britain after World War II. I remember spending the day there with my Mother, marveling at the displays of "technology" in a time before the computer was available to the public. My greatest delight, however, was to find that the Royal Mint had a booth there and that I could actually purchase the coin at the very event it was commemorating. Little did I know then!

I get quiet amusement from the initials MS used for Mint State. The fact that they also stand for Michael Sedgwick causes me to smile. I recognize that not one coin in my hoard has a mint state that would even get on the meter, but I have to tell you that the other (personal) MS value brings a unique pleasure far greater than any that could be placed on them by a grader.

Coin collecting takes many forms. My coins take no form at all! But it's like dear old Bob Hope would say.....

"Thanks for the memories".



3 NEW DIRECTORS TO JOIN BOARD

Three new members will join the NLG Board of Directors during the 2005 ANA convention in San Francisco.

They will take over the seats currently held by David T. Alexander, David C. Harper and R.W. "Bob" Julian, all of whom are now completing four years of service on the Board, having been first elected in 2001. Under the Guild's bylaws, directors must step down after serving two consecutive two-year terms but can return to the Board at a later date.

To fill the three seats, the Board has nominated Thomas K. DeLorey, a longtime coin writer, grader and professional numismatist; Barbara Gregory, editor of *Numismatist*, the ANA's official monthly journal; and Dorothy Harris, Consultant to Random House. Tom DeLorey received the Clemy Award in 1999, and he and Barbara Gregory have been NLG stalwarts for many years. Dottie Harris has served the Guild as a contest judge and symposium speaker, and has taken part in several recent Bashes as an award presenter.

If no other nominations are received, a single ballot will be cast for these three nominees. If there is a contest, an election will be held by mail.

Any prospective candidate must submit nominating statements signed by three NLG members in good standing. These must be received no later than **June 18, 2005** and sent to:

> Ed Reiter, Executive Director, 12 Abbington Ter., Glen Rock, N.J. 07452.

There are five members on the Board of Directors. The two holdover members are Jeff Shoop, publisher of *COINage*, and Bob Van Ryzin, editor of *Coins Magazine*. Their terms will expire next year.

Members of the Board oversee NLG policy, review membership applications and submit nominations for the annual Clemy Award.



NLG NEWSLETTER

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Numismatic Literary Guild Symposium
ANA Convention/San Francisco
Thursday, July 28, 2005, 10 a.m.
(check program guide for room)

"How the Internet is Changing the Coin Business and Numismatic Writing"

Speakers: David T. Alexander, Q. David Bowers, Beth Deisher, David C. Harper and Gregory J. Rohan

Moderator: Scott A. Travers

cont. from pg. 8

magazine articles. Just set forth the facts quickly, and you might surprise yourself with how much your words and a DJ's voice can do for getting the message out.

Fourth, find a niche and fill it. Have you looked at magazines or newspapers with a parents' theme? They represent a great way to get moms and dads thinking about how coin collecting can help them connect with their children, how it can help them teach their kids history, how a hobby can be shared in a family. If that's not to your liking, what about inflight magazines? There are as many of them as there are airlines, and all of them need articles. It's worth a try.

We are definitely smack dab in the middle of the third quarter

right now, at least when it comes to the 50-State Quarters program. But let's not get complacent. Now is the time to find a new outlet or two for our writing. It's the time to breathe deeply and find some new enthusiasm. It's the time to remind the public how much art, history, beauty and plain old fun there is in our hobby.

Let's do just that!



Happy Spring!





NLG NEWSLETTER

June 10th Deadline June 10th Entries In! Get Those Entries C/O PO BOX 937 MILLBROOK, NY 12545







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